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Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"
Third session
3-17 March 2000
Agenda item 2
Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Draft decisions submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee, Rasa Ostrauskaitė (Lithuania), on the basis of informal consultations

Draft provisional agenda and organizational matters for the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

The Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" recommends to the Assembly the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I
Provisional agenda

The General Assembly adopts the following provisional agenda for its twenty-third special session:

1. Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Namibia.
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.
3. Credentials of representatives to the special session of the General Assembly:
   (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.

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4. Election of the President.

5. Report of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory committee for the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century".

6. Organization of the session.

7. Adoption of the agenda.

8. Review and appraisal of progress made in the implementation of the twelve critical areas of concern in the Beijing Platform for Action.

9. Further actions and initiatives for overcoming obstacles to the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action.

10. Adoption of the final document(s).

Draft decision II
Organizational arrangements for the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly adopts the following organizational arrangements for its twenty-third special session, to be held at Headquarters from 5 to 9 June 2000.

President

1. The special session should take place under the presidency of the President of the fifty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly.

Vice-Presidents

2. The Vice-Presidents of the special session should be the same as those of the fifty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly.

Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole

3. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/142 of 17 December 1999, the General Assembly shall establish an Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the Twenty-Third Special Session.

4. The Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole should consist of one Chairperson and nine Vice-Chairpersons, one of whom will serve as Rapporteur. The Bureau of the preparatory committee should serve as the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole.

Credentials Committee

5. The Credentials Committee of the special session should have the same membership as the Credentials Committee of the fifty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly.

General Committee

6. The General Committee of the special session should consist of the President and the 21 Vice-Presidents of the special session, the Chairpersons of the six Main Committees of the fifty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly and the Chairperson of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole.

Rules of procedure

7. The rules of procedure of the General Assembly should apply at the special session.

Level of representation

8. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/142, participation in the special session should be at a high political level.

Debate in plenary

9. Statements in the debate in plenary should not exceed seven minutes.

10. The list of speakers for the debate in plenary should be established by a drawing of lots. Heads of State, Vice-Presidents, Crown Princes or Princesses and Heads of Government should be given precedence in the establishment of the list of speakers and in the speaking order and should have equal standing as regards the list of speakers. They should be followed by Ministers/Deputy Prime Ministers, Ministers, Chairpersons of Delegation/Vice-Ministers and Chairpersons of Delegation.

Allocation of items

11. All items of the draft provisional agenda should be allocated to the plenary, and items 8 and 9 should also be allocated to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole.

Participation of speakers other than Member States

12. Observers may make statements in the debate in the plenary.

13. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/142, States members of specialized agencies that are not members of the United Nations may participate in the special session in the capacity of observers.

14. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/142, associate members of the regional commissions may participate in the special session, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, in the same capacity of observer that applied to their participation in the Fourth World Conference on Women.

15. Heads of United Nations programmes, specialized agencies and other entities in the United Nations system may make statements in the debate in plenary. Representatives of the United Nations system may also make statements in the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole. These arrangements will in no way create a precedent for other special sessions of the General Assembly.

16. In accordance with General Assembly decision 54/ of __ March 2000, given the availability of time, a limited number of non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council may also make

statements in the debate in plenary. Representatives of non-governmental organizations may also make statements in the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole. These arrangements will in no way create a precedent for other special sessions of the General Assembly.

17. Pursuant to chapter 5 of the Beijing Platform for Action, and in view of the role of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in contributing to the implementation of the Platform, the Chairperson of that Committee will be invited to participate in the debate in plenary. This invitation will in no way create a precedent for other special sessions of the General Assembly.

Schedule of plenary meetings

18. Ten plenary meetings will be held over the five-day period, with two meetings per day as follows: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

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Third session
7-17 March 2000
Agenda item 2
Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Draft decision submitted by the Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee

Resumed third session of the Preparatory Committee

The Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

"The Economic and Social Council decides:

(a) To authorize the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" to hold a resumed session, subject to the availability of services, for one day, on an exceptional basis, in order to complete the work of its third session;

(b) Notwithstanding General Assembly resolution 52/100 of 12 December 1997 and without setting a precedent for future special sessions of the Assembly for which the functional commissions of the Council may be requested to act as preparatory bodies, to transmit directly to the twenty-third special session of the Assembly the report of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory committee for the special session."

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Third session
3-17 March 2000
Agenda item 3
Adoption of the report of the Commission acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mónica **Martínez** (Ecuador)

Organizational matters

Chapter ___.

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Preparatory Committee held its third session at United Nations Headquarters from 3 to 17 March and _____ 2000. The Preparatory Committee held _____ meetings (1st to _____) and a number of informal meetings.

2. The session was opened by the Chairperson, Roselyn Ruth Asumwa Odera (Kenya).

3. At the 1st meeting, on 3 March, the Deputy-Secretary-General of the United Nations addressed the Preparatory Committee.

4. At the same meeting, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat made a statement.

5. Also at the 1st meeting, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women made an introductory statement.

B. Attendance

6. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/100 of 12 December 1997, the deliberations of the Preparatory Committee were open to the participation of all States Members of the United Nations and to members of the specialized agencies and observers in accordance with the established practice of the Assembly.

7. The following States were represented: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia,

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Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Holy See, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

8. Palestine, an entity maintaining a permanent observer mission at Headquarters was also represented.

9. The following United Nations bodies were represented: Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Joint United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) (UNAIDS), United Nations Children's Fund, United Nations Development Fund for Women and World Food Programme.

10. The following specialized agencies were represented: International Labour Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, World Health Organization, International Monetary Fund, International Fund for Agricultural Development and United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

11. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented by observers: Caribbean Community, Commonwealth Secretariat, International Organization for Migration, International Organization of la Francophonie, Organization of African Unity, Organization of American States and Organization of the Islamic Conference.

12. The International Committee of the Red Cross, an entity invited to participate in the sessions and work of the General Assembly, was also represented by an observer.

13. In accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 1998/301, non-governmental organizations that either were in consultative status with the Council or had been accredited to the Fourth World Conference on Women also attended the session.

C. Officers

14. The officers of the Preparatory Committee, who were elected at its second session and resumed second session in 1999, remained:

Chairperson:

Roselyn Ruth Asumwa Odera (Kenya)

Vice-Chairpersons:

Asith Bhattacharjee (India)
Patricia Flor (Germany)
Misako Kaji (Japan)
Christine Kapalata (United Republic of Tanzania)
Sonia R. Leonce-Carryl (Saint Lucia)
Mónica Martínez (Ecuador)
Kirsten Mlačak (Canada)
Rasa Ostrauskaite (Lithuania)
Dubravka Šimonović (Croatia)

15. At the 2nd meeting, on 3 March, Mónica Martínez (Ecuador) was designated Vice-Chairperson with rapporteurial responsibilities.

D. Agenda and organization of work

16. At its 1st meeting, on 3 March, the Preparatory Committee adopted its provisional agenda and approved its proposed organization of work as contained in document E/CN.6/2000/PC/1. The agenda was as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

2. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century".

3. Adoption of the report of the Commission acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly.

E. Documentation

17. The Preparatory Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Annotated provisional agenda (E/CN.6/2000/PC/1);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (E/CN.6/2000/PC/2 and corrigenda);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the comparative report on how different categories of projects and programmes of United Nations organizations include women's interests and gender mainstreaming issues and on resources allocated in this regard (E/CN.6/2000/PC/3);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on emerging issues containing additional material for further actions and initiatives for the preparation of the outlook beyond the year 2000 (E/CN.6/2000/PC/4);

(e) Letter dated 1 December 1999 from the President of the Economic and Social Council addressed to the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (E/CN.6/2000/PC/5);

(f) Note by the Secretary-General on the results of regional meetings held in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly (E/CN.6/2000/PC/6 and Add.1-5);

(g) Letter dated 11 February 2000 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (E/CN.6/2000/PC/7);

(h) Note by the Secretariat on the draft provisional agenda and organizational matters for the special session of the General Assembly (E/CN.6/2000/PC/8);

(i) Note by the Chairperson of the preparatory committee on the establishment of the list of speakers for the debate in plenary of the special session of the General Assembly (E/CN.6/2000/PC/9);

(j) Letter dated 29 February 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Lima Accord and the resolutions adopted by the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean at its eighth session, Lima, 8-10 February 2000 (E/CN.6/2000/PC/10);

(k) Note by the Secretary-General containing a summary of the WomenWatch online working groups on the twelve critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action (E/CN.6/2000/PC/CRP.1);

(l) Note by the Secretariat containing a summary of the general debate by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fourth session on agenda items 3 (Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women) and 4 (Comprehensive review and appraisal of the implementation of the Platform for Action (E/CN.6/2000/PC/CRP.2);

(m) Summary submitted by the moderator of the panel discussion, Ms. Dubravka Šimonović (E/CN.6/2000/PC/CRP.3).

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Third session
3-17 March 2000
Agenda item 3
Adoption of the report of the Commission acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mónica **Martínez** (Ecuador)

Addendum

Chapter _____. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

1. The Preparatory Committee considered agenda item 2 at its 1st to 4th and _____ meetings, on 3, 6 and 17 March and _____ 2000. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (E/CN.6/2000/PC/2 and corrigenda);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the comparative report on how different categories of projects and programmes of United Nations organizations include women's interests and gender mainstreaming issues and on resources allocated in this regard (E/CN.6/2000/PC/3);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on emerging issues containing additional material for further actions and initiatives for the preparation of the outlook beyond the year 2000 (E/CN.6/2000/PC/4);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General on the results of regional meetings held in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly (E/CN.6/2000/PC/6 and Add.1-5);

(e) Letter dated 11 February 2000 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled

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"Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (E/CN.6/2000/PC/7);

(f) Note by the Secretariat on the draft provisional agenda and organizational matters for the special session of the General Assembly (E/CN.6/2000/PC/8);

(g) Note by the Chairperson of the preparatory committee on the establishment of the list of speakers for the debate in plenary of the special session of the General Assembly (E/CN.6/2000/PC/9);

(h) Letter dated 29 February 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting the Lima Consensus and the resolutions adopted by the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean at its eighth session, Lima, 8–10 February 2000 (E/CN.6/2000/PC/10);

(i) Note by the Secretary-General containing a summary of the WomenWatch online working groups on the 12 critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action (E/CN.6/2000/PC/CRP.1);

(j) Note by the Secretariat containing a summary of the general debate by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fourth session on agenda items 3 (Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women) and 4 (Comprehensive review and appraisal of the implementation of the Platform for Action (E/CN.6/2000/PC/CRP.2).

2. The Preparatory Committee held a general discussion on the agenda item at its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 3 March.

3. At the 1st meeting, on 3 March, statements were made by the representatives of Portugal (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the European Union), Namibia, Côte d'Ivoire, Luxembourg, Denmark, China, Cuba, Botswana, Zambia, Swaziland, Thailand, Canada (also on behalf of Australia, Iceland, Japan, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and the United States of America), Algeria, Morocco, Venezuela, the United States of America, the Philippines and Madagascar.

4. At the 2nd meeting, on 3 March, the Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Secretariat made a statement.

5. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Viet Nam, Solomon Islands (also on behalf of Fiji, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu), the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ecuador, Ghana, Pakistan, the Sudan, Kenya and Zimbabwe.

6. Also at the 2nd meeting, the Chairperson of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women made a statement.

7. At the same meeting, the observer for the Commonwealth Secretariat also made a statement.

8. Also at the 2nd meeting, the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations made a statement on behalf of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality of the Administrative Committee on Coordination.

9. At the same meeting, the representative of the World Food Programme made a statement.

10. Also at the 2nd meeting, the observer for the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, also made a statement.

11. At its 3rd meeting, on 6 March, the Preparatory Committee held a panel discussion and dialogue on "Outlook on gender equality, development and peace beyond the year 2000", under agenda item 2. It heard presentations by the following panel of experts: Yoriko Meguro, Professor at the Department of Sociology, Sophia University, Tokyo (Japan); Rosalba Todaro Cavallero, economist and researcher at the Centre for Women's Studies, Santiago de Chile (Chile); Carolyn McAskie, Emergency Relief Coordinator a.i., and Deputy to the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations; and Krisztina Morvai, Assistant Professor of Law at Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest (Hungary).

Action taken by the Commission acting as the preparatory committee

Draft decisions E/CN.6/2000/PC/L.3 and E/CN.6/2000/PC/L.4

12. At its 2nd meeting, on 3 March, the Preparatory Committee had before it a draft decision entitled "Arrangements regarding participation of

non-governmental organizations at the special session of the General Assembly entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'" (E/CN.6/2000/PC/L.3) and a draft decision entitled "Arrangements regarding accreditation of non-governmental organizations to the special session of the General Assembly entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'" (E/CN.6/2000/PC/L.4), both submitted by the Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee.

13. The Preparatory Committee was informed that the draft decisions contained no programme budget implications.

14. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee recommended the adoption of the draft decisions by the General Assembly (see chap. _____, sect. ____, draft decisions I and II).

Draft political declaration contained in document E/CN.6/2000/PC/L.5

15. At its 4th meeting, on 17 March, the Preparatory Committee had before it the text of a draft political declaration (E/CN.6/2000/PC/L.5), submitted by the Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee.

16. At the same meeting, the Vice-Chairperson, Misako Kaji (Japan), in her capacity as facilitator of the negotiations on the document, informed the Preparatory Committee of revisions made to the text as a result of informal consultations.

17. The Preparatory Committee then recommended to the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session the adoption of the draft political declaration, as orally revised (see chap. _____, sect. _____, draft resolution).

18. After the adoption of the draft political declaration, the representative of the United States of America made a statement.

Draft decisions I and II contained in document E/CN.6/2000/PC/L.6

19. At its 4th meeting, on 17 March, the Preparatory Committee had before it a draft decision entitled "Provisional agenda" and a draft decision entitled "Organizational arrangements for the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly" (both contained in E/CN.6/2000/PC/L.6), both submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee, Rasa Ostrauskaite (Lithuania), on the basis of informal consultations.

20. The Preparatory Committee was informed that the draft decisions contained no programme budget implications.

21. At the same meeting, the Preparatory Committee recommended to the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session the adoption of the draft decisions (see chap. ____, sect. ____, draft decisions I and II).

Documents relating to agenda item 2

22. At its 4th meeting, on 17 March, the Preparatory Committee took note of the following documents under agenda item 2:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action (E/CN.6/2000/PC/2 and corrigenda);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on emerging issues containing additional material for further actions and initiatives for the preparation of the outlook beyond the year 2000 (E/CN.6/2000/PC/4);

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the results of regional meetings held in preparation for the special session of the General Assembly (E/CN.6/2000/PC/6 and Add.1-5)

(see chap. ____, sect. ____, decision 2000/PC/1).

Draft decision E/CN.6/2000/PC/L.7

23. At its 4th meeting, on 17 March, the Preparatory Committee had before it a draft decision entitled "Resumed third session of the Preparatory Committee" (E/CN.6/2000/PC/L.7), submitted by the Chairperson of the Preparatory Committee.

24. The Chairperson made a statement.

25. Following statements by the representatives of Pakistan, the Holy See, the Syrian Arab Republic, Morocco, Mexico and Cuba, the Preparatory Committee recommended to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the draft decision (see chap. ____, sect. ____).